

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 920

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to recognize Clark Duncan on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is honored to recognize those coaches and educators throughout the State who have spent years in unflagging pursuit of victory, inspiring a countless number of Tennessee's students to succeed, both on and off the playing field; and

WHEREAS, one such person is Clark Duncan, who has served with distinction for more than forty-one years as a principal, coach, and educator in the Fulton, Powell, and South-Doyle communities and will begin his well-deserved retirement at the end of the 2021-2022 school year; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary career, Mr. Duncan has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and an exceptional asset to his community and this State; and

WHEREAS, Clark Duncan was an outstanding football player and track and field athlete at Unicoi County High School; an All-American defensive back with the Blue Devils, he also set school records in the decathlon, 120-meter hurdles, 220-yard dash, 100-yard dash, long jump, and 440-yard dash in 1977; and

WHEREAS, a member of head coach Johnny Majors's first recruiting class at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Mr. Duncan was a four-year starter for the Volunteers in the defensive secondary, a first team All-Southeastern Conference standout, and a second team All-American as a freshman; and

WHEREAS, Clark Duncan began his coaching career at Fulton High School as an assistant football coach and coach of the Falcons' softball team; and

WHEREAS, after his time in North Knoxville, Mr. Duncan took over as head football coach at Powell High School in 1986 and led the Panthers for seventeen years; during his tenure, the team made ten playoff appearances and finished as runner-up in 1991; and

WHEREAS, Clark Duncan also served as an assistant softball coach of the Lady Panthers at Powell High School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duncan became the athletic director at South-Doyle High School in 2003 and was named head football coach of the Cherokees in 2009. With his love for the game and matchless abilities, he led the Cherokees to playoff appearances in ten of his thirteen seasons at the helm while winning two region titles; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Mr. Duncan was inducted into the Greater Knoxville Sports Hall of Fame in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Clark Duncan's passion for teaching and coaching is evident in his impressive record of success, and he exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Mr. Duncan has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues, his students, and the citizens of this State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Clark Duncan our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, offering our deepest gratitude for his exceptional service to the children of Tennessee and wishing him every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.